SLP 3/83-84 dt-27

3229/1995-
dt 4/12/96 of
mayin Et praser Asst
received in
the Court
of Mysore

-31

D. R. Fl 3-(84-85)

Sls 1—3.

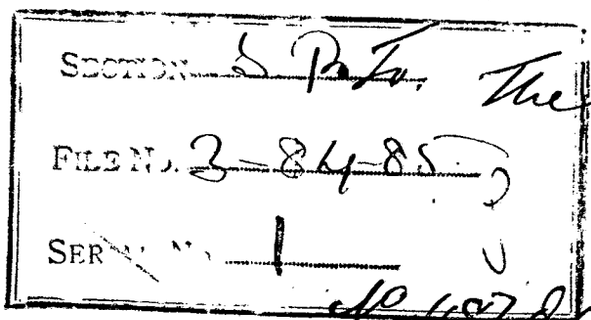
Indexed.

D. B. Thammanna

Counter marked
B. Nagaraja Rao

1885

From.
The Asst Supt
Central Distr



The Secretary
& the Delaware
& Hudson Canal Co.

Albany

Submitting copy of Special
(Report on Inspection of
track tools in the Town
of Smyrna & soliciting Schedule
& certain points therein referred

To Delaware Smyrna & Del

No 6523 of 14/3/85
326

No. 487. { Central Distillery Office
Bangalore 10 March/85.

From,

The Head Supervisor,
Central Distillery

To,

R. Vijayendra Rao Esq
Secretary to the Dewan
of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sir,

I beg to submit copy of my report on the inspection of the Arrack Shops in the town of Mysore, and to add that it is with regret I have to record that I was very much disappointed to find matters to be in so unsatisfactory a state. The Report had to deal with so many points, and to ensure the matters treated being effectually dealt with once for all, I had necessarily to treat the subject in detail. I beg to note below a summary thereof and to refer to the report itself for fuller particulars.

I. Tests of Liquor ¶2. A uniformity in the tests for some months back attracted my attention & mainly induced me to pay the visit in question. I beg to refer to the statement appended which illustrates what I mean. The tests scored are so singularly and strikingly alike as to stamp the results recorded as wholly unreliable. This is a point of the most vital importance to the Excise Revenue, and the first and principal duty of an Excise Officer.

The D. Jamer's attention is drawn to this glaring mistake. The D. Supt's work is evidently unreliable.

R.R.

II. State of Shops ¶3. May be summed in a word, if left to themselves they could not really have been in a worse plight. The work could have been better supervised by the Central Distillery staff and the object aimed at by the appointment of the specially well paid agency has not evidently been attained. Some radical change seems called for, and a

Wholesale Vendor selling liquor without Pass.
Retail Vendor taking liquor without Pass
Unauthorised Vendor { License Holder & Vendor both fined.
Weak liquor (confiscated and proceeds credited to Government)

a more vigorous regime inaugurated, as will be seen from this Report. The cases noted in the margin were prosecuted and the parties in 3 cases convicted and fined Rupees 5/- each. The other points noted were

Wholesale shd be interned that this is all indulgent.

(a). Women being employed as Vendors.
(b). Sign boards kept inside shops.
(c). Numbers all at sixes and sevens.
(d). Shops not constructed according to Rules and some mere dens, in nooks and corners, with low roofs and still lower doors in which the Public must be seriously incommoded - certainly not of a stamp to be tolerated in the chief city of Mysore, and more like shops in some out-of-the-way Hully
(e). Liquor being vended in chemboo instead of by cock and jar.
(f). Shop shut for want of Vendor (application not complied with yet).

This should be kept open

(g). Shop shut for non-payment of License Fees - extreme step - in face of courses laid down in Sections 41 and 84 of the Excise Act. Loss of Revenue to Government - loss to Renters - loss to Vendors.
(h). Renters holding Retail Licenses against explicit orders of Government.

Explanation wanted.

(i). The position of Master & Servant reversed in some Arrack shops owing to Sub-letting arrangements between License Holder and Vendor prejudicial to Government interests, and against Rules.
(j) Nominee of Excise Officers keeping Retail dealers' accounts and remunerated by a fee from Vendors.
(k). Drams cups in some shops black with dirt, and venom floating on liquor when filled.
(l). Special licenses for Jattras & Fairs or extension beyond after-hours not freely conceded by as at Bangalore &c

No. 485. Government Central Distillery Office,
Bangalore, 26th Feby/88.

From,

The Head Supervisor,
Central Distillery

To,

The Deputy Commissioner,
Mysore District,
Mysore.

Sir,

I beg to report that I inspected 13 of the Retail Arrack shops in the Town of Mysore, and found matters to be in a state different from that which I expected to find them. I enclose a detailed statement of the results of the inspection, and would respectfully draw attention to the tests of liquor as found by me, and those reported to be the result of the tests as given in the Deputy Supervisor's Diaries for the past 2 months; and to add that the almost uniform similarity of the tests scored are so extraordinarily fair as to stamp them as neither genuine nor reliable. This is the main point, and as on it hinges the whole of the Excise Revenue, it is with much regret and disappointment at the results that I have been forced to bring this point to your notice.

2. I prosecuted 5 parties (a) the Wholesale Vendor for issuing liquor without a Pass to Retail Vendor of Shop No. 26 and (b) the latter for removing the liquor from the Depôt uncovered by a Pass from the Depôt Wholesale Vendor. The one is a breach of Wholesale License, section 10, and the other of the Retail License, section 3. The Town Magistrate convicted and fined the parties 5 Rupees each. I would beg to draw attention to the very obnoxious system adopted by the Taluk Officials taking away and keeping the Passbooks of the Retail Vendors for days together, thereby entailing the issue of liquor uncovered by proper Passes, as alleged by the Wholesale Vendor before the Magistrate which plea of slackness mainly induced the Magistrate

to treat this very grave offence so leniently
this is one of the most vital items on which
the efficient working of the whole Excise
system rests. I trust therefore I may be
pardoned for asking where is the use of
Government going to the great trouble of
framing Rules to protect its interests and
obviate frauds, if the officers of Government
set the Rules at naught in this way? The
Wholesale Vendor could furnish the Bund-
-dar with a return of sales to each shop. If
the Vendors are warned to produce their
books at the Depôt, on any date fixed in
the month, the required Monthly data for
15 or 20 shops could be noted down in half
an hour. Discrepancies could then be readily
rectified by comparison with the Wholesale
Depôt account aforementioned and the depot
Registers and Retail shop Pass and Account
Books. It will devolve on the Excise De-
-partment to check the accounts of both
Depôt and Retail shops in detail and
see that they are "true and correct", and if
false, prosecute the parties under the Rules
in force. The other parties punished were
(c) Both the License Holder & Vendor of
Shop No. 21/2 for allowing an unauthorized
party to officiate as Vendor. They were
fined Rupees 5/- each. (d) The liquor of
Shop No. 23/8 was found 24.4 U.P. and con-
-fiscated by the Town Magistrate and
realized 4½ annas which were sent to
the Magistrate to be credited to Government.
I could have taken up as many more
cases at this one inspection if I had not
been pressed for time, or had wished to have
occupied the whole of the Town Magis-
-trate's time for a full day or two with
work which my subordinates ought to have
attended to during the past 9 or 10 months!!!

3. I beg respectfully to solicit
your attention to the very serious objection
this Department has against the employment
of women as Vendors - a point I also personally

ery shop and vended properly and publicly "open gallas" and not in such nicklipperdies and cosy nooks as in shop No. 24 where the vendor could be up to all manner of "dodges" undetected by the honest citizens of the Capital City of this Province.

I found several of the shops shut. (a). In one or two cases, I was told this was owing to the parties having gone to Weddings (b) one owing to the Vendor having resigned and the License Holder having applied for a new hand, but whose application was not yet complied with by the District office. (c) One or two had their liquor, it appears, stopped for non-payment of License fees (d) one or two had been cancelled as they were held by the Renters.

8. As regards (b) it is very desirable that such applications should be promptly attended to and several applications for vacant shops have not, I believe, been promptly complied with either in the Town or Talukhs or have been shelved protem. All this delay and non-compliance must seriously affect the Excise Revenue, and the Renters and Vendors' gains. I would therefore respectfully solicit that papers may be disposed of forthwith, by the Taluk officials. The course adopted here is for the Amildar to receive the application or if given to the Deputy Commissioner and referred to the Taluk, the Amildar makes the necessary enquiry and finds out if the character of the applicant is good, and if so permits the man to vend pending issue of the License by the District office, where, if there be any delay, Government and the Renters' interests and Public convenience will not suffer. This is the practical way of doing work, especially in cases of applications for shops resigned or closed for breaches of Rules by the Magistrate as has been the case in the Town of Mysore, at Hoonsoor and other places too, I believe, in the Mysore District. The Amildar in such cases takes a Muchilika from the party that he will obtain his liquor from the Koty, keep true

and accurate accounts, abide by the Rules in force &c, and orders the Koty Muthuddy to give him liquor, and permits the man to vend. A simple plan also is to send a blank license duly signed to the Amildar to fill in and ſide if all is right. This is the most feasible course, and saves a world of trouble & time and secures Government interests best, and I would respectfully solicit its being especially adopted in the case of applications for "Special licenses" for "Jattras" and "Fairs", which now, I learn are in some cases simply negatived in the Mysore District. If this be actually the case, I beg humbly to submit it is not fair to the Public, and is decidedly prejudicial to the interests of Government. Surely the natural instincts of the man are as keen, may keener, at a fair than in the precincts of the circle at home? If in the Nundydroog Division and in the Town & Cantonment of Bangalore, such concessions to the Public weal are granted, the inhabitants of Mysore and its environs might justly expect to be granted the same boon! It surely cannot be that "Donbrook instincts" are more likely to be roused in one than the other, and if so that "our boys in blue" are not equal to the occasion. I trust I may be pardoned for adding that it seems to me that sentiment and taste in this matter must necessarily give place in these very hard times to public convenience, and filling the Public coffers, which have such heavy drains thereon, as in this Province in which our interests lie.

9. In connection with the Mysore Arrack shops, there appears to be some sort of understanding between License Holder and Vendor. The former is the master, and the latter the paid nominee or Servant. But in some of the Mysore shops, it would appear the usual order of things is reversed, for the Vendor pays the License Holder 5 or 10 Rupees for lending his name, and is virtually master and owner of the shop, and as such makes good the License fee, and bears all other charges. The sales in some shops are small, and the amount netted by the Vendor must therefore necessarily be a trifle. Under

on the spot is better able to deal with these matters than another away from the place. When these points cropped up at Mysore, I personally directed the Tester to let me have the necessary details, but the man has failed to comply with my request. I shall deal with his neglect of orders separately, as I left my notes with him, and am unable to specify the exact instances in support of the points raised here.

11. In this case (d) the shop held by the 1st Firm (Messrs Davy Moodappa & Co.) connected with Messrs Frick Mallaiah and Co have been cancelled, I believe, but the shop held by Messrs Neilgherry Papanna & Co, the 2d Firm, has been overlooked. This is not fair to the former. They are all Arrack Renters of the Central Distillery Kangal, and under the explicit orders of Government, it is illegal for anyone of them to hold or have any connection, directly or indirectly, with the Retail vend. I beg therefore respectfully to solicit all may be "tarred with the same brush", and no exceptions may be made in favor of any of the three firms holding Retail License to the exclusion of the others.

12. I was given to understand that the late Assistant Superintendent had a relative of his to write up the Retail shop accounts, and this man was sent adrift by the present Tester, whose nominee was in his turn, dismissed, I was told, by the Deputy Superintendent. This "go-between" between Government officials and Vendors was paid by the latter. The action of the officers of the Excise Department in this matter is to be deprecated. The Taluk Sheristadar moreover made it a subject of complaint to me personally as he found difficulties raised to get accepts to the Retail Dealer's accounts readily, and his work was in consequence he said, retarded by this. As a matter of fact, it may be here stated that the account kept is so simple that any school-boy could readily keep it. It can be written up in five

five minutes daily. Under these circumstances, Government interference in the manner indicated was totally uncalled for, and being decidedly objectionable should be interdicted.

Opium ¶ 13. Two of the three shops existing in Mysore Town had their sales stopped, and the opium was illegally attached. On complaint preferred, I obtained the Secretary's orders to release the Drugs as the men stated that though they were a few days late, they did offer the fees but the Amildar declined to receive the same and afterwards attached the opium. The men could have been punished for laxness in this respect by legally enforcing the Rules before a Magistrate. By the illegal step taken, the Government has lost 292 Rupees, and the Vendors have been unjustly punished by a fine of Rupees 58/8 (loss of sales for 3 days their opium was illegally attached by the Taluk authorities).

Ganja ¶ 14. I directed the Tester to furnish me data monthly, but he has failed to do so. I beg I may be furnished with an account from the Renters as to the Drugs sold by them from April to date. I believe there was some interruption in the contract from April to the middle of July, but if the Deputy Commissioner will send for the Retail Dealers and quietly make enquiries, it will come to light that this was only nominally so. I am morally convinced the old Renters till they had the contract renewed to them, did issue Drugs to the Vendors in the interregnum thus created. I was led to believe this to be true, for it was their Drugs which were sold by the Retail Dealers for the whole or part of this period. If not, who supplied the Drugs? Were the shops shut 3½ months? The settlement of this matter is of primary

marised result of inspection of the

10

Sl. No.	Names of License Holders	Locality	License No.	Gauge No.	Duranto No.	Test found by the Inspector	Tests given in the by Inspector December 18 — 1st to 15th December 1884	16th to 31st December 1884
1	Ayasamy Pillay	Imporo Town F and K	25	13	13	22.2	(Z)	20.6
2	Narasimegowda	do G, K and C	20	10	10	21.6	20.6½	20.5½
3	Francis Kavasjee	do H and K	15	1	1	21.6	20.5½	20.7
4	Neligeri Papanna	do K	27	11	11	22*×22.3	20.5½	20.6
5	Annoojum Chetty	do H	30	6	6	21.6	20.6½	20.6
6	Chickappa Pillay	do B. H	26	7	7	21.9×21.6	20.6½	20.7
7	Moonsamy — A	do	23	8	8	24.2	20.5½	20.7
8	Tiruvengada Pillay	do I	19	(mul) 18	19	21.8	20.6½	20.6
9	Ponnusamy Pillay	do H	18	(mul) 19	18	21.8	20.5½	20.7
10	Ruppoosamy Pillay	do K	20/29	21	21	21.6	20.7	20.8
11	Periasamy Pillay	do K	42	15	15	21.6½	20.5½	20.7
12	Ayasamy Pillay	do J and K	24	4	4	21.8	20.5½	20.8
13	Mallegowda	do C, D and K	21	2	2	22.5	20.8	20.7
14	Mallegowda — Wholesale shop	do	22	12	12	wiped twice 22.5+	20.7	20.8
15	Kundasamy Pillay & Dasappa	do E	8	8	4	21.4	20.5½	20.4½

Bangalore Central Distillery
Office Dated Bangalore 26th February 1885

× Tested by 1st 2nd Tester

(Sd) Asst
Excise Co
Today Sd

rack shops in the Mysore town by the Hd Supt Central Dn on Sunday night & Monday morning, the 22d & 23d Feby/85.

Scores of from 1st to 31st Jany/85		Breaches of the License Rules and Remarks by the Head Superviser on other irregularities which should have been remarked by fortunetelly or otherwise.
15th Jany/85	16th to 31st January 1885	
6	20.9	A.- Breach of section IX of Retail license- liquor confiscated by Magistrate- order dated 23d Feby/85.
7	20.9	B.- Space at side of bar. Door to face next street- Removing liquor without Pass- Breach of License Section III- Fined Rupees 5/- Case No 55 of 1884 (from Magistrate's Court).
7	20.7	C. No cock to Jar- liquor served in chumboo. No permit and account Books and License were produced- breach of section XII of Retail license.
7	20.7	
5½	20.9	D.- Unauthorized party officiating as Vendor- breach of license- sections 1 and 3- Both License holder and Vendor fined Rupees 5/- each by Town Magistrate- Case No 60 of 1884.
8	20.8½	
-	20.8½	E.- Selling liquor without Pass- Breach of section 10 of Wholesale license- Fined Rupees 5/- by Town Magistrate- Case No 55 of 1884.
6½	20.9	F.- Had a Jar with cock, but did not use it- objectionable as opening a door to fraud See Note K
7	20.7	G.- Mere child on gulla, says he sold 1/4 Drams- Do believe he is the Vendor. Evidently breach of Sec 20 of License.
7	20.9	H.- Low roof towards door, and door very low- persons inside cannot be seen from outside properly- Section VI of License.
6	20.8½	I.- Cock leaks- Ordered to get the cock repaired.
L	L	J. Bar edged in with boxes none side. Vendor perched up on raised platform.
7	20.8	Note- The cups of several shops were bad and when filled with liquor remain floated on the top. Warned to wash them daily with Tamarind "Thuppa" (dregs &c) and keep them bright and clean- Vide Report for further particulars. More windows & outlets needed to some shops.
6	20.7	
7	20.6	(L- Tests not recorded in Dy Supts Diary)

Sd J. G. McDonnell
Hd Supt.

"Copy"
J. G. McDonnell
Head Superviser

Over from both Lic: Shops. Lic: to Shd showed on boards. Separate Nos for Town should be given.

From The Dy. Supt.
Central Distt
To The Dy. Supt.
Moyore

26th Feby 1885.

No. 487

Report, No. 487 of the 26th Instns, on the inspection of the Moyore Town Arrack Shops and matters affecting Opium and Ganja, addressed to the Dy. Commr. of Moyore by the Dy. Supt. —

Copy of the above is forwarded to the Dy. Supt. for information and any explanation he may have to offer on the points alluded to in paras 1 to 12. and to add that the Dy. Supt. regrets he was not able to see Mr. Arnold during the week's stay he made at Moyore, so that the needful might

then

then and there have been rendered, and embodied in the Report.

2. If the Dy Supt. had any difficulties to contend with, and had specially reported on them and asked for aid, the Asst Supt. would have endeavoured to help him. The Secretary has also now been asked to request the Dy Commr. to take steps to remedy the short-comings and inadvertences and it is hoped, with the Dy Supt's hands thus strengthened, matters will be soon set to rights now. — Sd J. G. McConnell
Asst Supt C.D.

"Copy"
J. G. McConnell
Asst Supt

(General Serial No. 31.)

1885.

From

SE[illegible] S.D.O. To The Deputy Commissr
FILE [illegible] 3-84-85 Mysore Dte.
SER'A 2[illegible]

Dated 14 March

Despatched —

Received

Enclosures No. 3

General No. 6813 R
No. 326

The Deputy Commr
of the Mysore Dte is requested
to take prompt steps to rectify
the mistakes pointed out by
the Head Superintendent in the
accompanying letter No 487
dated 10 March/85.

2 License vendors who
not have their liquors
stopped or Licenses can-
celled for non-payment
of License Fees. These
fees should be recovered
as a revenue demand.
This procedure should be
strictly observed.

3 Prompt steps should

Tobe returned.

be taken to re-open shops closed by complying with applications therefor or inviting others to take them up through the Amildars.

4. The Amildar should be empowered to appoint Vendors at once enter names in Licence and report for the Dy. Commissioners confirmation, and to allow applicants to vend for new shops required. pro tem, till Licences are renewed or new Licences issued - Sales should not be stopped on any account. This will subject Government to heavy loss.

5 Extra time should be allowed to Vendors to sell after hours on special Festivals &c., - and special Licences for Jathras and Fairs issued freely as in Bangalore.

6 The Deputy Commissioner's report on the case of the Opium shops Shirt is awaited.

7. The steps taken relative to outstandings for Ganja and other matters pertaining to that Drug should be reported on immediately.

By order

CR

Secretary

The Dy Cor should take prompt steps to get all the matters referred to in the A.C.'s Supdt's letter to him rectified. Certify to him by the 15th July the steps taken.

2. License vendors should not have their liquor stopped or licenses cancelled for non-payment of license fees. These fees should be recovered as a Revenue Demand or otherwise, as provided for in the Act. Sec 34 ought to be enforced but only as an Exceptional case, by Dist and Sub Dy Officers for the reasons assigned by the A.C.'s Supdt. All orders passed to close shops or stop issues of liquor on this score should be withdrawn at once.

3. Prompt steps should be taken to re-open shops closed by complying with applications therefor or inviting others to take them up thro' the Amils.

4. The Amils should be empowered to appoint vendors at once, enter names in lic. and report for the Dy Comm's confirmation, & to allow applicants to vend for new shops required pro tem, till licenses are renewed & new licenses issued. Sales should not be stopped on any account.

5. Extra time should be allowed Vendors to sell after hours on special Festivals &c and Spl. Licenses for Jattras & Fairs issued freely as in Bangalore.

6. The Dy Comm's report on the case of the Opium shops sent is awaited.

The steps taken

It is proposed to request that mistakes pointed out in letter

---

This process to be strictly observed.

This will be subject of a separate Govt.

relative to outstandings for
ganja & other matters peri-
-taining to that Drug should
be reported on immediately.

[redacted]

10th March 85

Submitted Sir,

I beg respectfully to
suggest that pmas 2 to 5
may (upon) to all Dt. & Sub Dr.
Offrs as the Offl. year is
closing & these points crop
up more frequently now

(General Serial No. 29.)

1885 47

From The Dy Commissioner
Mysore District

To S.R.

From 3-84-85
The Secretary to the Dewan
of Mysore.

Dated —/8

Despatched 20 April 1885

Received

Enclosures No. 6

General No. 46 } 188 —8
No.

His No. 6813/326 of 14 Ultimo

Submits report on different questions raised by the Head Supervisor re arrack shops in the town of Mysore.

Submd
CA 22-4-85

File

N.O.
Mrk
11/5/09

Mysore Dy Comms Office
Dated 4th April 1865

The Secretary to the Dewan
of Mysore

Sir

In returning herewith the Head Supervisor's report No. 487 dated 10th Ultimo received with your docket No. 6813/326 dated 14th Idem, I have the honor to forward Copy of Mr. Arnold's letter explaining the difference in tests of liquor and on other matters dwelt upon by the Head Supervisor, and to state that fresh licenses have been issued to applicants who have re-opened on the 1st Instant, the retail arrack shops Closed, and orders have been issued to enforce the rules regarding the recovery of License fees.

2. The Amildars have been empowered to appoint Vendors for vacant shops and report their names to this Office for Confirmation, allowing applicants to open the new shops pro-tem till licenses are renewed or new licenses issued from this Office.

The orders regarding extra time being allowed to Vendors to sell after hours on occasions of special festivals we will be observed in future.

4. I beg to refer you to the correspondence noted in the margin on the subject of the opium shops.

5. Your remarks regarding the inadequacy of the punishment inflicted on some of the retail vendors for breach of the Conditions of the license have been Communicated to the Magistrate in charge of the Mysore Town, who decided the cases.

6. Licenses for retail shops held by the Renters have already been withdrawn - Vide correspondence noted in the margin.

7. As regards the alleged outstandings for Ganja referred to by the Head Supervisor, I have to inform you that Messrs: Davy Muddaspa & Co have paid the Khists at the old rate from the date of the termination and renewal of their Contract viz, 1st April to the middle of July 1884. The Khist for March last which

* From Secy: Govt: No. 3528-2-85
To — do — 5508
From — do — 9374 dt 26-3-85
From — do — 2 dt 1-4-85

@ From Secy: Govt: No. 6636-2 dt 4th Augt/85
To — do — 8882 dt 3-8-85.

which is the only outstanding balance
against them, fell due only on the 15th instant.
6. In Conclusion I beg to add that other
matters alluded to by the Head Su-
pervisor, such as the use of Chamboos
in retail shops, numbers on boards &c
will receive my attention, and ne-
cessary orders have been issued to
the Deputy Supervisor.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Most Obt Servt.

Wm Thomas Esq
Dy Commissioner
Income Taxes

WM

No 148

Mysore 23 March 1885
Despd 2 April

From

The Deputy Superintendent
No II Range
Excise Department

To,

The Head Superintendent
Central Distillery
Bangalore

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of copy of your Report No 487 of the 26th Ultimo addressed to the Deputy Commissioner Mysore District on your "Inspection of the Mysore Town Arrack Shops and matters affecting Opium and Ganja" forwarded to me for information, and any explanation I may have to offer on the points alluded to in para 1 to 12.

2. In reply I beg to state that it is to be really regretted that I was not in Mysore to meet you during your week's stay here, having been absent on duty elsewhere; my presence at the time would I doubt not have avoided all necessity for this correspondence as a personal explanation would I feel confident have satisfied you on the several points touched upon in the report and would not have given rise to the numerous misgivings entertained by you regarding the working of the Department here which having been recorded on paper necessitate my explaining matters in detail. Some of the shortcomings noticed from their long continuance bear the impress of official sanction which take time to rectify and any change for the better must only be the work of time as any Rigid enforcement of the rules would seriously for a time atleast affect the sales and the Government interests in proportion. Most if not all the suggestions made are such as occurred to me from time to time, but it needed time to mature all that I had

planned

planned for the more satisfactory working of the De-
partment. There are certain statements however, in
the Report to the Deputy Commissioner containing ~~ex-~~
~~pressions~~ direct or indirect on my integrity and
efficiency, which from a feeling of duty towards
myself, I cannot allow to pass without an emphatic
defence. I trust it will not be deemed out of
place here if I state that I yield to none in
my honesty of purpose and zeal in the con-
scientious discharge of my duties; and hence
the charges contained in the report, I am called
upon to explain, have caused me considerable
pain of mind.

3 In the early part of the report it is stated
generally that matters were found in an un-
satisfactory state and going to details attention
is drawn to the difference between the tests as found
by you and those reported by me in my Diaries
for the past two months. It is remarked that,
"The almost uniform similarity of the tests scores
are so extraordinary fair as to stamp them as
neither genuine nor reliable". This charge is
as serious as it is undeserved; any one with
but little experience ought to know and admit
that the degrees in the liquor are materially
affected by the change in temperature and it
would have been only fair on your part if you
had recorded the temperature of your test as well
as mine. The tests you comment on are for
November and December the coldest months of
the year when the liquor naturally would be
stronger, than in the end of February when
the climate is exceedingly hot, and consequently
the liquor would be weaker. Further it must
be remembered that the Vendors were fully alive
to the fact of my being absent from the Town
and it is not unlikely that not expecting an
inspection by you some may have taken advantage

of

of my absence and weakened the liquor. You are aware that on my return from Hassan after my first inspection I immediately tested the liquor of the Wholesale Shop here when I found it 27-8 degrees under proof. I prosecuted the Wholesale Vendor who was fined Rs 20, and the liquor was confiscated and thrown away. I may mention also that since I have been here for the last 9 or 10 months I have prosecuted and have had Vendors punished for the following grave offences. Mysore Town 2 Vendors for using counterfeit measures fined Rs 25 each and the licence of one cancelled, Nunsoor Town 1 Vendor for keeping incorrect accounts to defraud Government fined Rs 50, and license cancelled - Pelhulli 1 Vendor for selling diluted liquor - fined Rs 10, and liquor confiscated.

4 In para 2 of your letter you allude to certain prosecutions instituted and convictions secured by you before the Town Magistrate and you draw attention, with much reason, to the "very obnoxious system adopted by the Taluk Officials in taking away and keeping the Pass books of the Retail Vendors for days together &c. The inconvenience and annoyance caused by this delay, and the room it affords for an infringement of the Section of the Act which it is our duty to strictly enforce, renders necessary that some reform should be introduced in the system as it now exists. Your remarks and suggestions on this point are quite apropos and if the latter be acted upon, the result cannot but prove satisfactory. With the emphasis of underlineation you conclude para 2 remarking that if you had not been pressed for time &c you could have done in your one week's inspection, the work which your subordinates ought to have attended to during the past 9 or 10 months. This sweeping remark is based on the prosecutions which

which you refer [illegible] of this reply you will see that I have also detected and prosecuted to conviction several grave offences and the breaches detected by you are of a nature that Vendors would be guilty of during my absence far away from town on inspection duty. As far as I am concerned I am conscious of having discharged my duties with a strict regard to rectitude and correctness; and I am sorry that a lower Standard here was not possible with you, as the remark you have made and which I have quoted would doubtless have not been penned.

5 Your objection to employment of women as Vendors and the reasons you have urged respecting the disabilities and disqualifications of the sex to serve at the bar, can only admit of one opinion. I have adopted measures to prevent females ministering to the wants of consumers. Nay I go further and object strongly to their being admitted even as license holders.

6 As regards para 4 of your letter, remarking on the Sign boards of some of the Shops being taken inside, I have more than once checked this irregularity. The reason usually assigned is that after dark idle hands under the influence of liquor are tempted to remove these boards and hence they are placed in a prominent position inside, a Lantern serving as a beacon after the shades of night have fallen. The license number, as you remark is the proper number to enter on the board, ~~This good method of doing~~ and the remedy suggested by you is simple, and if these license numbers are not annually altered, any complaint on this score would not exist.

7 In para 5, your observations are directed

towards

towards the limited dimensions of the arrack shops, and the smallness of their apertures for ingress and egress: I am afraid that something more than an ordinary difficulty will have to be overcome ere this is remedied. The chief patrons of these arrack shops are those who live in the poorer parts of the town and it is therefore to facilitate the sale of the liquor that the license holders elect to have their shops in such localities. It is well known that the principal feature of an ordinary native house is the smallness of its main entrance. It may be often observed that even in large buildings the entrances are low and narrow. If this be the case in large buildings used as dwelling houses it can scarcely be expected that small arrack shops can aspire to any pretensions in their exterior. License holders have been more than once warned to have large entrances but to little or no advantage and I have again warned them in this matter.

8 The allusion in Para 6, to the objectionable use of metal cups or "Lotahs" is a matter that occurred to me lonyago, I had already ordered pewter cocks to be made in the Town of Mysore, as soon as they are ready which will be shortly, the use of the metal cups will be discontinued. Your query in the same para is rather hard to answer exactly. It is surely beyond any Comprehension to state why thirsty souls in Mysore do not drink more than they do. Doubtless that with a decrease in the consumption of liquor there is a corresponding increase in the growth of public morals. But as has been pointed out the public revenues are affected by the masses drinking only 630 Gallons per mensum some explanation or solution may, perhaps, be

found

found in the fact that as the weather becomes warmer people prefer toddy to arrack, moreover the poorer classes of natives prefer toddy to arrack on account of its cheapness, hence there is a lesser sale of the latter. As regards Shop No 24/4 not having a proper open Galla, I have to state that the building in which the Shop is held is one to which it was recently removed and until a proper Galla could be erected boxes had to be used. I may add that the shop is closed for nearly a fortnight during the month and I intend recommending that a fresh license should not be issued to the present holder. The other Shops have almost all got proper Gallas and those who had them too high were ordered to make them lower so as to be seen from the public road.

9. Paras 7 and 8 of your Communication call for no reply from me and I am sure that the suggestions therein made will receive the consideration of the Deputy Commissioner.

10. The reference in para 9 of your letter to the private arrangement some times made between license holder and Vendor by which the latter pays the former a few Rupees for the loan of his name on the license is not a novel one, neither is the practice peculiar to this District and the evil was long ago brought to notice by me Vide my No 132 of the 24th January 85. I was informed you write that a complaint or two from the Vendors themselves representing their anomalous position was laid before the authorities recently. In such cases, I opine the Vendors have only to blame themselves for the fraud in practised upon the authorities, and the

inconvenience

12- I am
with the c
alluded
of the repor
-respondes
matter a
taken pa
the depu
of Bany
deyone
not fu
a copy

nconvenience suffered by them would be likely to have a wholesome effect in preventing them from acting thus in future.

11 With reference to the remarks in para 10, I have to state that the procedure followed in this District of stopping the issue of liquor if the license fee is not paid within a certain date is I believe also observed in other Districts of this Province and the Amildars act in this manner under an old standing order issued to them. With regard to suggestions made for the recovery of the License fee, I may state that many of the License holders are men of straw and the observance of the provisions of Section 41 of the Excise Act are not likely in most cases to lead to any useful result so far as the recovery of the fee is concerned. Arent Arack Shops closed in the Taluk I beg to state that I have as usual reported in my diaries all Shops found closed on my inspection. It is only on tour of Inspection I have the means of ascertaining what Shops have been closed. Further it has always been the practice to make a special report only of such occurrences as sale of diluted liquor, short stock in Wholesale Shops and any grave offence, all other occurrences being reported in the diary.

13 I now come to para 12 of your letter containing a charge against me which demands the most vigorous repudiation. You refer to the dismissal by me of an accountant or Gumastah nominated by the present Tester. The dispensing of this man's services is laid at my door, I know nothing absolutely of the matter and I trust it will not be regarded as unpardonable in me if actuated by a sense of duty to myself,

I request

I request a satisfactory account of the grounds upon which the statement is based as the imputation conveyed thereby is to say the least, most damaging to my long established good character and integrity. The only fact that I am aware of is that I frequently found the accounts kept by the Vendors incorrect and in several places the figures were smudged and the books slovenly kept and to prevent a continuation of this state of affairs my advice to them was that they should have their accounts neatly and correctly written but I never un-dertook on myself to recommend to them the removal or employment of any particular in-dividual and I regret that you should have without an explanation from me concluded that what you had heard was true. Taking into consideration the conscientious and dis-interested manner in which I have all along discharged my duties and the several grave offences I have detected and prosecuted since I have been in my present appointment and which has tended to suppress several mal-practices I hope that you will after this ex-planation withdraw the aspersions contained in your report and which are of so da-maging a nature.

2 In conclusion I beg to state that I have sent a copy of this explanation to the Deputy Commissioner of Mysore.

I beg to Remain
Sir
Your Most Obedient Servant
(Signed) J Arnold
Dy. Supr.

True Copy
J Arnold
Dy Superr
No 1 Range Excise Depott.